

Amendments to the Claims

The following listing of claims will replace all prior listing and versions of the claims in this application.

Listing of Claims

1. (Original) A truss fabrication system for use in fabricating trusses from truss components including truss members and connectors joining the truss members together, the truss fabrication system comprising:

a truss set-up table including a substantially horizontal table deck having a side edge, and extension arms projecting generally horizontally outward from the side edge, the extension arms being spaced apart from each other along the table deck side edge, the extension arms and table deck side edge defining at least one work bay sized to permit a worker to pass into the work bay to the table deck side edge for manipulating the truss components on the table deck; and

a gantry press movable relative to the truss set-up table, the gantry press being sized and arranged relative to the truss set-up table for pressing connectors into truss members supported on the table deck and for pressing connectors into truss members supported on the extension arms.

2. (Original) A truss fabrication system as set forth in claim 1 wherein the gantry press is sized and arranged relative to the truss set-up table for simultaneously pressing connectors into truss members supported on the table deck and the connectors into truss members supported on the extension arms.

3. (Original) A truss fabrication system as set forth in claim 2 further comprising guides for guiding the movement of the

gantry press relative to the truss set-up table, the guides being located out of registration with the work bay.

4. (Original) A truss fabrication system as set forth in claim 3 wherein the guides are mounted on the truss set-up table.

5. (Original) A truss fabrication system as set forth in claim 4 wherein one of the guides is located adjacent to the table deck side edge.

6. (Original) A truss fabrication system as set forth in claim 3 wherein the guides are located generally on opposite sides of the table deck, the gantry press comprising a gantry, a cylindric roller rotatably mounted on the gantry sized for engaging connectors to press the connectors into truss members supported on the table deck and supported on the extension arms, a motor for powering rotation of the roller, and guide wheels engaging the guides for guiding motion of the gantry press.

7. (Currently Amended) A truss fabrication system as set forth in claim 6 wherein one side of the gantry includes a spacer connected to one of the guide wheels and arranged to extend under the extension arms to position said one guide wheel for engagement with one of the guides.

8. (Original) A truss fabrication system as set forth in claim 1 wherein the extension arms define a first work zone and the table deck defines a second work zone, each work zone being configured to hold connectors and truss members in position for the gantry press to simultaneously press connectors into truss members.

9. (Original) A truss fabrication system as set forth in claim 8 wherein the table deck further comprises a third work zone configured to hold connectors and truss members in position for the gantry press to press connectors into truss members in the third work zone simultaneously with pressing connectors into truss members in the first and second work zones.

10. (Original) A truss fabrication system as set forth in claim 9 wherein the work zones are configured to assemble trusses in stages as the truss proceeds laterally through each work zone, wherein the first work zone is configured to splice certain of the truss members together, the second work zone is configured to press connectors on a first side of the truss into truss members to connect the truss members together, and the third work zone is configured to press connectors on a second side of the truss into the truss members.

11. (Original) A truss fabrication system as set forth in claim 10 wherein the truss set-up table comprises a flipper arm positioned for flipping the truss over from the second work zone to the third work zone.

12. (Original) A truss fabrication system as set forth in claim 11 wherein said truss set-up table further comprises a clamping system configured to selectively clamp the truss members in the second and third work zones on the table deck.

13. (Original) A truss fabrication system as set forth in claim 8 wherein the extension arms have upper surfaces for engaging and supporting truss components in the first work zone, the upper surfaces being located at a vertical height greater than the height of the table deck in the second work zone.

14. (Original) A truss fabrication system as set forth in claim 8 wherein the first work zone includes the work bay, the extension arms being adapted to hold truss members spanning adjacent extension arms through the work bay.

15. (Original) A truss fabrication system as set forth in claim 1 wherein the extension arms have upper surfaces for engaging and supporting truss components, the upper surfaces being located at a vertical height greater than the height of the table deck.

16. (Original) A truss fabrication system as set forth in claim 15 wherein the upper surfaces of the extension arms are located between about 1 and 3 inches above the table deck.

17. (Original) A truss fabrication system as set forth in claim 1 wherein the extension arms define multiple work bays along the table deck side edge.

18. (Original) A truss fabrication system as set forth in claim 1 wherein the gantry press further comprises a bearing surface engagable with a surface of an extension arm to support the extension arm as the gantry press presses connectors into truss members supported on the extension arm.

19. - 22. (Canceled)

23. (New) A truss fabrication system as set forth in claim 1 wherein the extension arms are fixed to the truss set-up table in a position projecting horizontally outward from the side edge of the table deck.